

EMBAJADA DE CHILE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

December 6, 1974

W

Honorable Thomas E. Morgan, M.C.
United States House of Representatives
Room 3183
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Morgan:

In behalf of the Republic of Chile and its people, I hope you can give serious consideration to restoring to the Foreign Assistance Act the program for Chile proposed by the Executive Branch of your government for the 1975 fiscal year. That program included total economic and military assistance and credit sales of \$84,976,000, consisting of \$26,035,000 AID, \$516,000 Peace Corps, \$37,097,000 under Public Law 480, \$28,000 international narcotics control, \$800,000 military assistance grants (MAP) and \$20,500,000 military credit sales.

When the Senate passed this bill on December 4, it limited the amount of assistance that may be made available for Chile to \$55,000,000, none of which may be made available for military assistance. The reason given in Senate Report 93-1299 was:

"These reductions and limitations on assistance to Chile are an expression of the Committee's concern about the continuing disregard for the protection of human rights in Chile."

As you know, the present Government of Chile came to power on September 11, 1973, in response to the will of the people to restore order and return our Government to the democratic pattern of life developed under our Constitution of 1925, which had been virtually destroyed by the Allende Government. Since then Chile has been under almost constant and false attack in some segments of the American press, and many of these false and erroneous news stories were used to limit the foreign assistance program for Chile in the Senate.

When Vice Admiral Peet testified before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in June of this year in support of the Administration's program for Chile, he said:

"Our interests in Chile are threefold, I would say. One is access to its copper supply and another access to the waters and the straits around that section of Latin America. Quite obviously, we would also like to deny influence in that area to potentially hostile countries, and to maintain our own relations with Chile."

December 6, 1974

Page 2 Approved For Release 2003/10/16 : CIA-RDP80R01731R002300020024-3

The Chilean people and its Government are strong friends of the United States. We need the \$21.3 million of programmed credit sales for the very purpose Admiral Peet said it was intended - "to deny influence . . . to potentially hostile countries." The pro-Allende forces in the world, supported as they are by interests hostile to the United States and to the Government of Chile, are carrying on an enormously effective program to smear the image of the present Government of Chile and cause difficulty between it and the United States. I am taking the unusual step of writing to you because of my deep concern about this problem and in the hope that you could look at the Administration's proposed foreign assistance program in terms of what best protects the security of Chile and of the hemisphere, and not in terms of the false issue of human rights being promoted by the enemies of free governments. Actually, nearly all of the persons confined during the state of siege have been released and our government is moving toward full restoration of the rights embodied in our Constitution of 1925 just as quickly as our national security will permit.

Very truly yours,

Walter Heitmann
Ambassador of Chile

Dear General Maltos

Washington Carrasco F.

Brigadier General

Military Attache to the Embassy of Chile
I take the liberty of sending you this
copy. I will appreciate your
cooperation